

representations for providing facilities to passengers at Chunar Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that some social organisations staged Dharana and demonstrations in 1995 and 1996 demanding halt for some important trains at the said station to provide reservation quota in these trains and to construct a rail overbridge there;

(d) if so, the details of action taken in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the passenger facilities as demanded are likely to be made available at the said railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A memorandum was received from Nagrik Upbhokta Samiti Chunar, regarding stoppage of Magadh, Katihar, Neelachal Expresses and Kalka Mail at Chunar Railway station.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Neelachal Express does not touch Chunar Railway station. However, the feasibility of providing stoppage of additional trains, including Magadh Express, Mahananda Express and Kalka Mail at Chunar has been examined, but not found commercially justified. In the absence of stoppage of these trains, no quota can be allotted at this station. Construction of Road-over bridge is not feasible at the site, however, a Foot-over bridge can be considered if the State Govt. sponsor proposal on deposit terms.

#### **Loading of Loaded Trucks on Rail Wagons**

3052. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow loaded trucks on rail wagons; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of implementation will arise only after various aspects of the proposal have been examined.

#### **Rail Link with Bangladesh**

3053. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to increase trade with Bangladesh from different parts of West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government are aware that from North Bengal to Bangladesh, Traffic movement is possible by

constructing rail link with Chilahati (Bangladesh) to Raninagar via Haldibari;

(c) whether the Government are also considering to take up this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Rail Link with Kabithirtha Churulia**

3054. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since taken any decision to connect Kabithirtha Churulia in district Bardhaman, West Bengal, birth place of revolutionary poet Nazrul Islam, with rail;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct any survey for this propose;

(c) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Churulia Station was in existence on Ikhra-Gaurandi Section in Asansol Division on Eastern Railway. On account of rampant theft of railway track it was not found feasible to run trains on this section, and the section was closed in 1985. Churulia is connected by road to Asansol.

#### **On-going Construction of Over-Bridges in Orissa**

3055. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some road over-bridges are under construction in Orissa;

(b) if so, the location of these bridges;

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the progress of work made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A Statement is attached.

**Statement**

S.No.	Location of Road over bridges	Estimated cost in Crores Rs.	Progress made so far
1.	Road over bridge at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road	2.29	88% completed.
2.	Road over bridge at Rayagada	5.45	Rly's portion completed. Approaches to be constructed by State Govt.
3.	Road over bridge at Km. 55.4 on Talcher-Sambalpur new line project.	3.70	10% completed. State Govt. Nil.
4.	Road over bridge at Bargarh	4.13	15% completed. State Govt. Nil
5.	Road over bridge at Km. 57.27 on Talcher-Sambalpur Project.	1.58	80% completed. State Govt. Nil
6.	Road over bridge at Km. 65.28 on Talcher-Sambalpur Project.	0.35	60% completed. State Govt. Nil
7.	At Km. 106.56 on Talcher-Sambalpur Project.	0.77	30% completed. State Govt. Nil
8.	At Km. 157.83 on Talcher-Sambalpur new Project.	0.39	60% completed. State Govt. Nil
9.	At Km. 1.08 from Banspani Rly. Stn. on Daitari-Banspani new line project.	2.00 (Approx.)	Rly's portion completed. State Govt.'s 25%
10.	ROB at Km. 10.34 from Banspani Rly.Stn. on Daitari-Banspani new line project.	2.00 (Approx.)	Rly's portion completed. 20% State Govt. completed.

**Direct Plane Services In between Trivandrum and New Delhi**

3056. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce direct plane services between Trivandrum and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be introduced;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce the high landing facility in the Trivandrum Airport; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines is operating daily direct A320 service between Trivandrum and Delhi Via Mumbai.

(c) and (d) Night Landing facility already exists at Trivandrum Airport.

**Development and Expansion of Platforms**

3057. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme for the development, expansion and construction of new platforms in Madurai

Railway Station keeping in view the inadequacy of amenities and more passenger traffic there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds provided therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Amenities at stations are provided as per norms based on the volume of traffic, depending on the availability of funds. Accordingly, considering the growth in traffic at Madurai station extension of platforms No 4, 5 and 6 have been taken up and Rs. 2186 lakh has been provided for 1996-97. In addition, raising of platform No. 1 and provision of shed on island platform No. 6 and 7 have also been taken up at a cost of Rs. 28.80 lakh.

**Tourist Lodging for Foreign Tourists**

3058. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any arrangement for tourist lodging at Buddhist pilgrimage Sankisa, situated in Farrukhabad district in Uttar Pradesh for the foreign tourists visiting there;